ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1	
2	
3	

The present invention includes a method for inhibiting hydrate formation
blockage in a flow line used to transport hydrocarbon containing fluids. Water
is added to a hydrocarbon containing fluid to produce a water cut enhanced
hydrocarbon containing fluid. Salt may be added to the hydrocarbon
containing fluids as well. Hydrate formation blockage is inhibited from forming
within the flow line by the addition of the water and/or the salt. Sufficient water
may be added such that the hydrocarbon containing fluid is converted from a
water in oil emulsion to a water continuous emulsion. A system for preventing
the formation of hydrate blockage in conduits is also provided. The system
includes a flow line for transporting a hydrocarbon containing fluid and a water
injection conduit fluidly connected to the flow line to add water to the flow line
to increase the water cut of a hydrocarbon containing fluid flowing through the
flow line. A salt dispenser may also be included which is used to increase the
salinity of the hydrocarbon containing fluid. The system may further include a
water separator to separate hydrocarbons from water which receives fluids
from the flow line. The flow line, water separator and water injection conduit
may cooperate to form a loop wherein water from the flow line may be
separated by the water separator and a portion of the separated water is
delivered back to the water injection conduit to be reinjected into the flow line.